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 ACADEMY'S COLD SHOULDER **PAGE 16**

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OUR GRADS GET HIRED

Shoppers surprised by Target shutdown



Melissa Wooley and her son Miles, 1, leave the Grant Park Target location Thursday morning. Wooley said she was surprised to hear the retailer is closing all its Canadian stores. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Plaza at Polo Park.

City had hoped the location would spur development, taxes



SHANE
GIBSON

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Shoppers leaving a Winnipeg Target store Thursday morning were disappointed to hear the U.S.-based retailer plans to close all of its Canadian stores less than two years after opening with great fanfare on this side of the border.

"It's very sad news... It's my favourite store, actually," said Melissa Wooley as she left the Grant Park location with her two kids. "I guess they weren't making money — or not enough money to send their executives on vacation."

The company announced Thursday all 133 Canadian stores — including its four Winnipeg locations and one store in Brandon — would close after a court-supervised liquidation period.

The move will affect 17,600 employees across the

country.

In Winnipeg, the city is relying on taxes generated from commercial development at the Plaza at Polo Park retail site on St. James Street — where Target was expected to be an anchor tenant — to help pay for the Blue Bombers' multi-million dollar new home at Investors Group Field.

Finance chair Coun. Marty Morantz told Metro on Thursday afternoon it was too soon to say how the closure of the Target at the former home of the Bombers would affect the deal.

"I think we have to wait to see what the developers do," he said.

A representative of Shindico Realty Inc., who is a co-developer of Plaza at Polo Park, did not return Metro's phone calls Thursday.

However, they told media the company doesn't expect to have trouble replacing Target at the site.

More on the story

See more coverage of Target's closure on page 3, page 6 and page 13.



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What do you do with an old Target?

Target's retreat back across the border will leave 133 big-box retail locations across Canada sitting empty. At an average store size of 114,000 square feet, it won't be easy to find new retailers or new uses for such cavernous buildings. Here's what five communities in the U.S. have done to bring "ghost boxes" back to life.

COLIN FAST/FOR METRO
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MSR DESIGN

Library

The city of McAllen, Texas, turned an abandoned Walmart into the largest civic library in the United States. The \$24-million facility won an award from the International Interior Design Association in 2012 for its bright, modern layout. The design was popular with citizens, too, as foot traffic jumped by 79 per cent compared to the library's previous location.

Water park

Cleveland's first indoor water park opened inside of an old Big Lots department store in 2011. The \$11-million Collinwood Recreation Center also includes a full-size basketball court, a weight room, track and a computer lab.



CONTRIBUTED



RAYS MOUNTAIN BIKE PARK

Indoor Bike Park

A former Menards hardware store in Milwaukee has been revamped as Ray's Indoor Mountain Bike Park. With jumps and obstacles laid out on different surfaces, the facility gives riders a chance to work on their skills all winter long in climate-controlled comfort.

Seniors centre

When Walmart closed its store in downtown Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., the city bought the space and spent \$5 million converting it to a one-stop shop for seniors. Everything from meals to line-dance classes to health-care services are offered under the same roof. The walking track and outdoor gardens are particularly popular with clients.



ALTMANN CONSTRUCTION



ENGEDI CHURCH

Church

The Engedi Church in Holland, Mich., recently spent \$4.1 million to transform an empty Kmart into a modern home for its 1,000 members. The church includes space for worship, Sunday school classes and community service projects like a food bank.

BIG-BOX CLOSURES, BIG PROBLEMS FOR CITY



COLIN FAST
winnipeg@metronews.ca

It looks like the latest trend in retailing has finally made it to Winnipeg: the ghost box.

The closure of Target's Canadian operations will create four ghost boxes — empty big-box locations — in our city,

and that's a big problem for shopping centre developers and city hall politicians.

Having large retail stores sit empty for months, or even years, robs a city of its vitality and reduces its ability to generate tax revenue.

This problem is especially acute at Target's Polo Park location: a 107,000-square-foot

stand-alone behemoth that opened just a few months ago. It was going to be the anchor tenant for a large retail development on the old Canad Inns Stadium site that also includes a fashion outlet mall.

New property taxes generated by that development are supposed to pay \$75 million of the provincial loan taken out

to build Investors Group Field. But if the closure of Target slows development on the site, it could also delay payback of the stadium loan.

Nordstrom could be a possible saviour for the Polo Park site. The high-end department store recently launched in Canada, and the availability of an appropriately sized, gently

used location might be enough to put Winnipeg on its radar.

But whether Nordstrom takes over the space or not, the Target experience should cause local developers and politicians to rethink their current approach to retail. When big boxes become ghost boxes, they can haunt our city for years.

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Decemberists' album features Winnipegger

Music scene.

Winnipegger chosen for back-up vocals through Twitter



SHANE GIBSON

shane.gibson@metronews.ca

A Winnipeg fan of American folk rockers The Decemberists was shocked when a tweet led to a gig singing with the band last summer — and now he's making his musical debut on their latest album.

Jeremy Sawatzky, 32, and his fiancée were on vacation in the band's hometown of Portland in August when Sawatzky tweeted that he hoped to "somehow cross paths" with lead singer Colin Meloy, who he tagged in the tweet.

Within a half-hour Meloy replied, asking Sawatzky if he could sing.

"I don't know what I thought would come of the tweet, but



Jeremy Sawatzky, right, with Colin Meloy, lead singer of The Decemberists.

CONTRIBUTED

never in a million years would have thought he would say, 'Hey come and sing backing vocals on an actual song,'" said Sawatzky this week. "But yeah, that's what happened.... I was flabbergasted."

Sawatzky — who said he hasn't sung a note since high school — met the band at a Portland recording studio a couple days later and was one of 10 people to sing in a choir for the song 'The Singer Addresses his Audience.' The song is included on the band's new

record, *What a Terrible World, What a Beautiful World*, which hits stores Tuesday.

"They've been my favourite band for over a decade.... It's something I never would have imagined happening," said Sawatzky, who was the only choir member chosen through Twitter, something he still can't believe. "They were putting this choir together at that moment, and the way Colin told it to me was that he said, 'I'm going to invite the guy from Twitter.' It was just a perfect storm."



Primatologist coming to 'Peg

Acclaimed primatologist Dr. Jane Goodall will be giving a free lecture at the University of Winnipeg in September. The animal and environmental activist has been named the second speaker in the Axworthy Lecturer Series on Social Justice and the Public Good. The event, taking place on Friday, Sept. 11 at 7 p.m., will be open to the public. GETTY IMAGES

Missing pup lands in Alta.

'The dog over-flew': WestJet

WestJet is in the doghouse after forgetting to take a puppy out of a jet's cargo hold.

The airline was supposed to deliver an eight-week-old Bernese Mountain Dog named Levon to Winnipeg from an Ontario breeder.

Instead, Levon was left inside the jet and continued on to Calgary.

At one point, the breeder, Jennifer Lennon of Haustier Bernese Mountain Dogs, put out an alert on Facebook that the pup was stolen before it turned up in Alberta.

A friend of the breeder's picked up the dog in Calgary to care for it overnight.

WestJet said Levon was set to be flown to Winnipeg on Thursday morning.

Brie Ogle, a WestJet spokeswoman, said the airline is trying to figure out what went wrong.

"The dog over-flew," Ogle said Wednesday. "It was not lost, not missing, certainly not stolen."

CTV WINNIPEG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Proposed garbage, recycling carts policy should cover theft: Eadie



Garbage and recycling carts in Winnipeg's North End. SHANE GIBSON/METRO FILE

Helping homeowners. Councillor says that homeowners who have their carts stolen are also victims

A city move to replace garbage and recycling carts at no cost is a good step but doesn't go far enough, said Coun. Ross Eadie.

The Mynarski ward councillor said he's encouraged to see

this recommendation on the agenda of Friday's infrastructure-renewal and public-works committee meeting; however, it only covers carts that are vandalized or damaged by accident or arson.

"I support what they're doing but I'm disappointed it didn't include stolen carts," said Eadie, who along with former councillor Harvey Smith campaigned for the coverage.

"For the stolen carts, (the owners) are just as much vic-

tims as anybody else.

"You know what happens when a recycle cart gets stolen? People don't buy another one. What they do is just throw everything out in the garbage."

Eadie said he knows of a case in which a homeowner who had his garbage cart stolen threw the bags out in the street. But he also said that most calls about damaged carts his office receives are due to arson.

In a city press release sent Monday, Diane Sacher, direc-

tor of the water-and-waste department, said the proposal "acknowledges that despite a resident exercising all due diligence to keep their carts safe and secure, there are times when carts are on the street for collection and vulnerable to vandalism and accidents from a third party."

The city estimates this new policy, which is not retroactive, will cost \$127,500 annually to replace an average of 1,500 carts. **BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO**

Lunch. Bureaucrats dined on taxpayer dime: Tories

Manitoba's Opposition Progressive Conservatives are crying foul after discovering that several dozen bureaucrats dined on the taxpayer dime at the premier's state-of-the-province address.

Documents obtained by the Tories under the freedom-of-information law show at least 45 government workers attended Premier Greg Selinger's luncheon speech last month to the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce. The tickets, which were each \$85 plus tax, were paid for by the government.

"The number struck me as unusually high," Tory legislature member Shannon Martin said. "If they're going to simply promote and support Selinger ... then obviously I think Manitobans should take issue with that."

Martin said it appears Selinger, who is fighting off a caucus revolt and facing a leadership vote in March, was trying to stack the room of 800 or so people with friendly audience members.

The government said the turnout was nothing unusual.

"The government and its departments have sent staff to the annual ... state-of-the-province address for many years," Selinger spokesman Paul McKie

Who was in attendance?

The documents show most of the government staff in attendance came from two departments — municipal government and jobs and the economy — that deal with business leaders regularly.

wrote in an email.

"The number of government staffers attending has been consistent over the last decade, and there was nothing unusual about the number who attended in 2014," he added.

McKie did not provide any numbers for previous years.

Theresa Oswald, a former NDP cabinet minister who is challenging Selinger for the leadership, said she would review the practice.

"I'm not casting aspersions in so far as I think that this has been a long-standing historical practice," Oswald said.

"But I think it bears a review. If these are people that are routinely meeting with the folks who are in the room anyway, routinely meeting with the premier, maybe it is not a necessary expenditure."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

More spending promises

Oswald promises free tutoring, more school breakfasts

One of the people trying to unseat Premier Greg Selinger is promising free after-school tutoring.

Theresa Oswald is also promising to double funding for school breakfast programs, provide more help to aboriginal head-start initiatives and hire new teachers to reduce class sizes.

Oswald says her plan would cost \$5 million annually, and another \$25 mil-

lion a year would be needed to continue the government's plan to raise funding for schools.

Oswald has already made other spending promises and said she would pay for them, in part, by pushing back the province's plan to balance the budget by next year.

Oswald was part of a caucus coup against Selinger that prompted the NDP to call a leadership contest for March 8.

Selinger is running to keep his job, and former infrastructure minister Steve Ashton is also a candidate. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Target Corp. to close 133 Canadian stores

Full retreat. Target expects \$5.4 billion US in losses over its last quarter, mostly from its underperforming Canadian stores

Less than two years after Target Corp. threw open the doors of its first Canadian stores with grand expectations, the discount retailer is retreating back to the United States in defeat.

The Minneapolis-based company said Thursday it has decided to wind up its money-losing operations in Canada, a move that affects 133 stores and 17,600 employees across most of the country.

"After a thorough review of our Canadian performance and careful consideration of the implications of all options, we were unable to find a realistic scenario that would get Target Canada to profitability until at least 2021," said Target chairman and chief executive Brian Cornell in the announcement.

Before its launch, Target was once considered the biggest threat to Canadian businesses, partly because its reputation with consumers was unique. Many Canadians would trek south of the border to wander the aisles of U.S. Target stores searching for deals and products they couldn't find at home.

But when Target arrived in Canada, the story wasn't the same. Complaints flooded social media about empty shelves, high prices and a selection that fell short of expectations.

Target Corp. will record about \$5.4 billion US in pre-



Workers install an outdoor sign at the new Target store at the Mic Mac Mall in Dartmouth, N.S. on July 20, 2013. Target says it will discontinue operating its 133 Canadian stores. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

tax losses in its fourth-quarter, with most of it related to the Canadian operation.

The company said it would provide \$175 million US in credit to fund Target Canada's operations while it winds down under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, or CCAA, a Canadian equivalent to the U.S. Bankruptcy Act.

RBC analyst Irene Nattel said it is unclear who would be in a position to take over Target's 133 stores.

Target says the stores will remain open during a court-supervised liquidation period and it's working to ensure employees are paid at least 16 weeks of severance.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Retailers off-target

Target is far from the first retailer that has had trouble breaking into other markets. Here are some others:

- **Walmart.** The world's largest retailer, which now operates in 27 countries, rarely acknowledges defeat. But in 2006, the Bentonville, Ark.-based discounter threw in the towel in Germany.
- **Best Buy.** In January 2013, the consumer-electronics chain said it would close 15 of its stores in Canada and

cut about 5 per cent of its workforce in the country as it tried to revamp its strategy. In November 2011, it said it was closing all 11 of its U.K. big-box stores.

- **Sony.** Sony Corp. also announced it would be closing its 14 retail stores in Canada; they will shut down over the next six to eight weeks. The company said its products will still be available online.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Target closures send 'strong message'

U.S. retailers planning to cross the border can learn some valuable lessons from the failure of Target, which announced Thursday it is shutting down its 133 Canadian stores just two years after its much-anticipated launch.

"It's a huge thing, after two years, for a brand like Target to wave the white flag," said Doug Stephens, the founder of Toronto-based consulting firm Retail Prophet. "I think that really sends a very strong message to others that maybe the Canadian market isn't the easy pickings that they thought it

might be."

Canadians, who had high hopes for the discount retailer known for its broad product selection and low prices, were underwhelmed when they discovered bare shelves and less-than-impressive pricing in the new locations.

It all speaks to the importance of understanding the Canadian market and making a good first impression, Stephens said.

"You've got to deliver on customer expectations or exceed them."

Target's missteps, including

supply-chain issues that left shelves nearly empty during the all-important launch, could serve as a cautionary tale for other U.S. retailers, experts say.

Ultimately, Target failed to grasp some of the nuances of the Canadian market that its more established competitors understood, said Satov.

While U.S. chains may pause to consider Target's failure, the company's exodus is good news for other Canadian retailers, with Walmart Canada and Canadian Tire set to benefit the most, according to RBC analyst Irene Nattel. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Shoppers browse at a Target store in Toronto on Thursday. COLIN PERKEL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Rehtaeh's story not finished: Mom

Rehtaeh Parsons case. Man convicted of distributing child porn receives one year of probation



HALEY RYAN
Metro in Halifax

The court proceedings surrounding the distribution of child porn in the Rehtaeh Parsons case may be over, but her mother says Rehtaeh's story is far from finished as she awaits the results of a review into how her daughter's case was handled by police.

On Thursday, the second man who pleaded guilty in the child-porn case was sentenced in Halifax youth court to a year of probation for distributing a sexually graphic image showing Rehtaeh, who was 15, leaning out of a window as he smiled at the camera and gave a thumbs-up sign.

"Justice will only be served if this young man takes a different path in his life," Rehtaeh's mother, Leah Parsons,



Glen Canning, father of Rehtaeh Parsons, leaves provincial court in Halifax on Thursday. A second young man who pleaded guilty in the child-pornography case involving Canning's daughter was sentenced to a year of probation.
ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

told reporters outside court.

"If this man ... has some remorse and resolve to make his life better."

The 17-year-old Parsons

died after being taken off life-support following a suicide attempt in April 2013. Her parents say she was bullied for months as a result of the

photo.

The 20-year-old was ordered to attend counselling, not contact Parsons' family, not drink or possess alcohol

and submit a DNA sample, among other conditions.

Another 20-year-old man in the case was given a conditional discharge in November after pleading guilty to making child pornography when he took the photo. Neither can be identified because they were minors when the crime occurred.

Both Leah and Glen Canning, Rehtaeh's father, appeared in court and read emotional victim-impact statements, with Canning speaking from Rehtaeh's perspective.

Judge Gregory Lenehan said that if anyone should be championing the cause against online bullying, it should be the accused "because you know ... better than anybody else how that activity can destroy lives."

Leah said she's been waiting "more so" for the upcoming investigative review conducted by Murray Segal than the sentencing results.

"What are in those reports, and what are the reasons that nothing was done when it should have been done, and why no sexual-assault charges?" she said.

Dalhousie. Dentistry students avoid charge

Halifax Regional Police have finished a review of misogynistic comments made about female dentistry students at Dalhousie University and conclude no crimes have been committed.

The department says it will not proceed with a criminal investigation.

Reports of the offensive posts and the university's initial response prompted rallies and calls for the expulsion of the 13 students. The Facebook page at the centre of the controversy has been taken down.

According to the CBC, members of the Class of DDS Gentlemen page on Facebook voted on which woman they'd like to have "hate" sex with and joked about using chloroform on women.

The CBC said that in another post a photo of a woman in a bikini carries a caption that says, "Bang until stress is relieved or unconscious."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Flag turns 50. Feds cough up \$50k to mark Feb. 15

The federal government has allotted \$50,000 for celebrations for the upcoming 50th birthday of the iconic Maple Leaf flag.

That's compared to almost \$4 million for a campaign marking the 200th anniversary of Sir John A. Macdonald's birth, and \$5.2 million spent on the bicentennial of the War of 1812.

Canadian Heritage said Thursday that the \$50,000 includes funds for promotional material, a photo exhibit during Ottawa's upcoming Winterlude festivities and various "outreach products."

In an email, a spokesman

also said the department has provided more than \$200,000 to organizations, including provincial lieutenant-governors, for their 50th birthday projects.

By way of contrast, the government announced earlier this week it will spend \$1.5 million on a cross-country project to raise awareness about the Holodomor, a state-sponsored famine in Ukraine in 1932-33 in which millions starved while resisting Soviet collectivist policies. The flag — the brainchild of Liberal prime minister Lester B. Pearson — turns 50 on Feb. 15. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



The federal government is spending \$50,000 to celebrate the red, white and maple leaf. **ISTOCK**

Fevers going up, immunity going down: American study

Flu vaccine. This year's formula isn't that effective, according to a new report

A new report from American scientists suggests this year's flu vaccine is offering modest levels of protection against the influenza viruses that are in circulation.

And while Canadian estimates are still being worked on, there is reason to suspect the vaccine effectiveness in this country may be lower still than what is being seen south of the border.

The report, published today by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, suggests that on average, the vaccine lowers a person's risk of getting sick enough to need medical care by 23 per cent.

That low level of protection is attributed to the fact that the H3N2 viruses that are causing most of the flu this year in



A nurse working for Vancouver Island Vaccine loads a syringe with flu vaccine for injection at the Victoria Clipper Terminal in Victoria. **CHUCK STODDY/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

North America aren't a good match for the one in this year's vaccine.

The CDC report says about two-thirds of the H3N2 viruses seen in the U.S. so far this winter are not the type included in the vaccine because the viruses have mutated or drifted.

A leading Canadian flu re-

searcher says in Canada, nearly all the H3N2 viruses that are being seen are drifted viruses, so the vaccine may not be working as well here.

Dr. Danuta Skowronski of the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control says the U.S. study shows modest protection in children aged six

months to 17 years. But in 18 to 49-year-olds, and people aged 50 or older, the protection is 12 and 14 per cent respectively — and the numbers aren't statistically significant. That means the protection offered in these groups could be higher — but could be lower as well.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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AirAsia

Bad weather hinders search for bodies

Bad weather and poor underwater visibility on Thursday prevented Indonesian navy divers from searching inside the large chunk of AirAsia jet wreckage.

At least 15 divers descended to the seabed at a depth of 28 metres to examine the piece of wreckage and search for bodies. They were unable to do so because of the weather. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Ten killed

Investigators return to site of prison-bus crash

Investigators trying to determine the cause of a West Texas prison-bus crash returned to the site Thursday. The bus skidded on an icy overpass and went down an embankment. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Pallbearers carry the casket of Charlie Hebdo cartoonist Bernard Verlhac, known as Tignous, decorated by colleagues. MICHEL EULER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

19,000 French sites hit by cyberattacks

Charlie Hebdo fallout. France is on edge since last week's terror attacks; French president seeks to calm religious tensions

Hackers have targeted about 19,000 French websites since a rampage by Islamic extremists left 20 dead last week, a top French cyberdefence official said Thursday as the president tried to calm the nation's inflamed religious tensions.

France is on edge since last week's attacks, which began Jan. 7 at the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo.

The paper, repeatedly threatened for its caricatures of the Muslim Prophet Muhammad, buried several of its slain staff members Thursday even as it reprinted another weekly issue with

Muhammad on its cover.

Calling it an unprecedented surge, Admiral Arnaud Coustilliere, head of cyberdefence for the French military, said about 19,000 French websites had faced cyberattacks in recent days, some carried out by well-known Islamic hacker groups.

The attacks, mostly relatively minor denial-of-service attacks, hit sites as varied as military regiments to pizza shops, but none appeared to have caused serious damage, he said. Military authorities launched round-the-clock surveillance to protect the government sites.

"What's new, what's important, is that this is 19,000 sites — that's never been seen before," Coustilliere said. "This is the first time that a country has been faced with such a large wave."

Among the groups suspected of launching the attacks, officials named: Mid-

Pope Francis

Pope Francis said Thursday there are limits to freedom of speech, especially when it insults or ridicules someone's faith.

- Francis spoke about the Paris attacks while en route to the Philippines, defending free speech as not only a fundamental human right but a duty to speak one's mind for the common good. But he said there were limits.

- Francis by no means said the violent attack on Charlie Hebdo was justified. He said such horrific violence in God's name couldn't be justified and was an "aberration."

dle East Cyber Army, Fallaga team and Cyber Caliphate. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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President Barack Obama signs a presidential memorandum Thursday on paid leave. CAROLYN KASTER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Obama pushing for paid leave programs

Addressing issue at State of the Union.
U.S. president is renewing his push for paid leave for parents and other workers

President Barack Obama on Thursday renewed his push for paid leave for parents and other workers, saying he's astonished so many people don't get paid sick leave.

"How can we support working families so they have the tools to succeed in this new

economy?" Obama asked at a Baltimore café that offers earned sick leave to workers. He and Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.) had just discussed work-life balance with women.

The White House said this week that Obama will make a new push on the issue, beginning with the State of Union address he delivers Tuesday night.

Obama will call on Congress, states and cities to pass measures to allow tens of millions of workers to earn up to a week of paid sick time a year. He'll ask Congress for more than \$2 billion to encourage states to create paid family and

Paid leave at forefront

"We really can do something about it."

U.S. President Barack Obama, noting that the issue of paid leave transcends demographics and geography.

medical leave programs.

In addition, Obama aims to provide federal employees with up to six weeks of paid sick leave to care for a new child. And he'll propose Congress pass legislation to give federal workers an additional six weeks of paid parental leave.

Obama said the Baltimore

café owner has offered above-minimum-wage pay and earned sick leave to all employees since opening in late 2010. He said that "pays dividends," citing reduced turnover as one benefit.

Obama wants Congress to pass legislation to allow workers to earn up to a week of paid sick leave to care for themselves or a sick family member, obtain preventive care or deal with domestic violence. Workers would earn an hour of paid sick time for every 30 hours they work.

Obama will call on states and cities to adopt similar legislation. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Utah. Same-sex supporter faces Mormon expulsion

A Mormon man well-known for running a website that provides a forum for church members questioning their faith said Thursday that he is set to be kicked out of the religion later this month.

John Dehlin of Logan, Utah, said a regional church letter informed him that a disciplinary hearing is scheduled for Jan. 25, at which he's likely to be censured or excommunicated.

The letter cites the website, Mormonstories.org, and his public support of same-sex marriage as reasons for accusing him of apostasy, Dehlin said. The church defines apostasy

as "repeatedly acting in clear, open, and deliberate public opposition to the church or its faithful leaders, or persisting, after receiving counsel, in teaching false doctrine."

Excommunication is rare and brings down the harshest punishment available on a church member.

"While my family and I would prefer to be left alone by LDS church leadership at this time, I would much rather face excommunication than disavow my moral convictions," Dehlin said in a statement on his website.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sentence completed

Puerto Rican militant returns home after prison

Supporters of Puerto Rican independence are welcoming the return of a 69-year-old man who has completed a prison sentence for his role in a 1983 holdup in Connecticut carried out by Puerto Rican militants.

Norberto Gonzalez Claudio arrived Thursday in Puerto Rico. Some 150 supporters raised fists in the air and waved Puerto Rican.

"Long live a free Puerto Rico!" Gonzalez said to supporters. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Ohio

Man planned to 'wage jihad': FBI

An Ohio man's Twitter posts sympathizing with Islamic terrorists led to an FBI operation and the man's arrest on charges that he plotted to blow up the U.S. Capitol and kill government officials.

Christopher Lee Cornell, also known as Raheel Mahrus Ubaydah, told an FBI informant they should "wage jihad," and showed his plans for bombing the Capitol and shooting people, according to a criminal complaint filed in federal court in Ohio Wednesday. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Bombardier shares in tailspin after business jet put on hold

Learjet 85. Slow sales, not technical issues, behind decision to pause development of jet, company chief says

Bombardier's shares plunged more than 25 per cent in heavy trading Thursday following a revised outlook for its aerospace business, including plans to put development of the Learjet 85 business jet on hold, eliminating 1,000 jobs in the United States and Mexico.

On the Toronto Stock Exchange, the Montreal-based company's shares dropped \$1.07 or 25.85 per cent to a more-than-two-year low of \$3.07 on a very heavy volume of some 65 million shares.

The aerospace and rail-equipment manufacturer said before markets opened that it would "pause" development of the Learjet 85 but continue to sell other models



Bombardier said it plans to put development of the Learjet 85, illustrated above, on hold due to weak customer interest. CONTRIBUTED

and focus on two other aircraft programs — the Global 7000/8000 business jet and the much-delayed CSeries passenger jet for commercial airlines.

About 600 employees who worked on the Learjet 85 will be switched to the Global and

CSeries projects, the company said.

President and CEO Pierre Beaudoin confirmed slow sales and weak immediate prospects for improvement in the smaller business jet market were behind the Learjet 85 decision, not because

Quoted

"It's a market that has not come back since 2008, and we think that the right decision ... is to take a pause."

Pierre Beaudoin, Bombardier's president and CEO

of any further technical problems with the aircraft, whose first flight was delayed until last April.

Beaudoin denied that Thursday's announcement signals that Bombardier is in peril. "We have a product line where we are the global leaders in business aircraft, regional aircraft and in our train business," he said.

The Learjet announcement follows last year's elimination of 2,900 positions around the world. It laid off more than 200 workers last June because of delays in the Learjet 85 flight-test program.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Caesars. Unit of casino giant files for Chapter 11

A cash-strapped division of casino giant Caesars Entertainment Corp. said early Thursday that it filed for bankruptcy protection in Chicago, hoping the court agrees to its plan to get out from under \$18.4 billion US in debt.

The division Caesars Entertainment Operating Co. owns and operates most of Caesars' 50 properties worldwide. Caesars CEO Gary Loveman said in a statement that its casino-hotels would

remain open and continue to host meetings and events, assuring customers that their loyalty points would still accrue and the company's lineup of on-stage entertainers would keep performing according to their schedules.

More than 30,000 people are employed at Caesars Entertainment Operating Co.'s 38 casino-hotels, including Bally's and Caesars in Atlantic City and the iconic Caesars Palace on the Las Vegas Strip.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A man takes photos of Caesars Palace Las Vegas Hotel and Casino on Monday. The cash-strapped division of casino giant Caesars Entertainment Corp. said Thursday it filed for bankruptcy protection. JOHN LOCHER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

BlackBerry. Shares give back recent gains

BlackBerry shares have given back a little over half of the spectacular gains that they made late Wednesday after a news report said the Canadian smartphone company had been approached by South Korean rival Samsung with a takeover offer.

Both companies have since issued denials.

BlackBerry responded late Wednesday that it has not engaged in discussions with Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd.

about a possible takeover, and Samsung sent an email saying the report was "groundless."

Reuters said Samsung had met with BlackBerry executives over the possibility of buying the Canadian company for \$7.5 billion US. The news agency cited both a source familiar with the proposal and related documents. The two companies are rivals in the smartphone business but have worked together on technology. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
↓ 83.58¢ (-0.14¢)

TSX
↓ 14,041.82 (-42.61)

OIL
↓ \$46.25 US (-\$2.23)

GOLD
↑ \$1,264.80 US (+\$30.30)

Natural gas: \$3.158 US (-7.5¢)
Dow Jones: 17,320.71 (-106.38)



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VOICES

PUTTING A CAULKING GUN IN YOUR BUTT IS NOT BEAUTIFUL



THE KOHLER REPORT

By Rebecca Kohler

How far would you go to get an ass like Kim Kardashian's? Would you do 700 squats a week to build your glutes? Or eat a bucket of KFC per day in hopes of plumping up? Maybe both at once?

Would you meet a woman, claiming to be a nurse who trained in South America, in a hotel room and pay her thousands of dollars to inject "something" into your buttock using a caulking gun? If it's the last one, you wouldn't be alone.

It was reported this week that Toronto-area woman Marilyn Ely Reid pleaded guilty to eight counts of aggravated assault after injecting at least nine women's bum-bums with polymethyl-methacrylate (PMMA), a hard plastic used as a shatter-resistant alternative to regular glass, among other things. The "procedure," which is not approved by Health Canada, led to severe complications in most of the women and,

according to doctors, could have been fatal.

Marilyn Reid is clearly an opportunistic monster who should certainly go to jail. But this story saddened me past the fact that some people are terrible.

I have insecurities: face, stomach, overall entire body — the usual. I won't lie, I've Googled certain plastic-surgery procedures out of curiosity. There was one involving the under-eye area I was even tempted to pursue, but then I read that there was a two-week healing period.

I realized I'd either have to hide in a cave for two weeks or go out in public and admit that I'd received plastic surgery. I very quickly decided my eyes weren't that bad and went to Shoppers and bought an overpriced cream that I made myself believe would work instead.

I get wanting to "improve" yourself. And I don't want to judge the women who trusted Marilyn Reid and say they should have known that, aside from prostitutes and drug dealers, anyone who wants to conduct business in a hotel

room is shady at best. But why would these women risk their lives for a passing fad? How long will big butts even be the bomb?

Nicki Minaj and Meghan Trainor are in today, but whose butt will we look to tomorrow? The media is like a weather forecast for your self-esteem. If you have a booty today, great, you're all set. But next time the Twiggy-tuckus is in and you get liposuction, should you save the fat? Keep it in a Ziploc and freeze it so when round rears come back, you can have your butt re-instated?

A quick Google of PMMA brings up some scary stuff. Once it's in your body, it's difficult to remove. Infections are common, and pieces of the stuff can get loose in your blood stream and cause all sorts of havoc.

One of Reid's victims was left permanently disfigured. Others developed abscesses, infections. And one woman was in the hospital for three weeks and couldn't work for an entire year. All this to look better twerking?

I found this post in an Ask an Expert forum: "I had PMMA injections done on my butt in November and I wanted to know when does it stop growing and are there any long-term side effects?"

Imagine having a substance in your body that won't stop "growing." And imagine having to resort to the Internet for medical advice because when you tried to ask the person who administered your injections you realized it was just a circus monkey in a white coat.

From Marilyn Monroe to Kate Moss to Kim Kardashian, society itself is on a yo-yo diet, and everyone knows yo-yo dieting is bad for you. I'm not saying we can't admire Kardashian's butt — it's an amazing butt — but do you really want to die for it?

Rebecca Kohler is a stand-up comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter @becca_kohler

Target says goodbye

FAREWELL, DEAR TARGET



EVIE SABEAU

readers@metronews.ca

When you receive texts from multiple people conveying their condolences to you on the closure of Target, you start to realize you may have a problem.

Thankfully I was already wearing black and didn't have to rush home and put on my mourning clothes.

I have been to Target in the United States, and yes, it is far superior. However, Target Canada was still better than my other options. And the clearance? Amazing! When I got \$75 video games for \$10 and gave them out at kids' birthday parties, I felt like Oprah handing out cars. Our family moved into a new home this past year, and the whole place is basically a Target store ad. On closing day when we picked up our keys, we stopped at Target before we went home to pick up the flatbed trolley of furniture I had on hold.

We didn't have a dining-room table or a bed but we had a blue velvet bench with tufted buttons (on clearance, thank you very much).

Oh, Target. The place where I have browsed, tried on and spent too much (way too much) money. It's where I learned that 70 per cent off really did exist, and people in red shirts and khakis were the grown-up version of Disney characters. It's where I went at least a couple times a week to hide from my husband and two young kids and get lost in the never-ending supply of chevron fashion scarves.

I may hold a memorial service for Target.

I'll serve tea sandwiches on a stylish metal tray from the kitchen department, guests can sit on one of the slipper chairs I purchased from the furniture department and we'll wipe our tears away with tissues from home essentials.

So long, Target. Although my husband and my Visa bill won't miss you, I definitely will.

Evie Sabeau lives in Bedford, N.S., and will soon have more time on her hands and money in her pocket.



Poll:

DO YOU SHOP AT TARGET?

35%
NO — IT'S JUST A GLORIFIED WALMART.

22%
ALL THE TIME. IT'S MY GO-TO ONE-STOP SHOP.

35%
IF I'M IN THE AREA.

9%
NO — THERE ISN'T ONE CLOSE TO ME.

TARGET DIDN'T LIVE UP TO EXPECTATIONS



BERNICE PONTANILLA

readers@metronews.ca

Confession time: as one of those rare Manitobans who didn't shop across the border, Target always seemed an enigma to me, like a far-off Shangri-La.

Those people I knew who did make the trip to Grand Forks would return with stories of cheap clothes, food and brand names that weren't available in Canada.

When Target announced it was moving into Winnipeg, I didn't know what to expect, but there were thousands of my fellow 'Peggys who did.

The rich man's Zellers

Target seemed to look the same as when its predecessor Zellers had its liquidation sale, albeit more clean.

And it seems Target simply didn't live up to expectations. It sure didn't for me about three weeks before this past Halloween, when the flyer offering cheap candy brought me to the Kildonan Place store. But there was nothing when I got there in the afternoon — on the same day the sale started.

Bare shelves were a common problem; Target seemed to look the same as when its predecessor Zellers had its liquidation sale, albeit more clean. The prices weren't as good as the other big-box stores, and if there isn't enough stock, customers won't waste time going there.

I'm not shedding a tear at Target's departure, though I am heartbroken at the 17,600 people who've lost their jobs. In Canada, Target just wasn't our Shangri-La.

Bernice Pontanilla is a senior reporter for Metro Winnipeg.



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We can't hack more hacker plots

Analysis. Universal has been mum on finding links between the Sony scandal and their high-tech thriller *Blackhat*

Sometimes clichés are clichés because they are true. No news is good news. A penny saved is a penny earned. Any publicity is good publicity.

No news is usually good news — unless you're the editor of a newspaper with blank pages to fill — and the math behind a penny saved is a penny earned isn't so hard to figure out, but recently the veracity of any publicity being good publicity has been put to the test.

The Sony hack and ensuing commotion that swirled around the Seth Rogen movie *The Interview* garnered headlines around the world, moving the story off the entertainment pages and into the news sections.

Stories, some true some not, and reviews, some good, some not, lit up social media.

The brouhaha surrounding the film lived at the very heart of popular culture for several weeks and even President Obama weighed in. But notwithstanding the endorsement of the most powerful film critic in the world, the movie is unlikely to actually make money.

The Guardian suggests *The Interview's* total cost sits somewhere near \$80 million in production and marketing costs, and at the time of this writing has only earned \$36 million in digital rentals, purchases



Chris Hemsworth plays the world's hottest computer nerd in *Blackhat*. CONTRIBUTED

In Focus

RICHARD CROUSE



Blackhat

Director. Michael Mann

Stars. Chris Hemsworth, Viola Davis



Cyber crime is a hot-button topic but it doesn't make for very compelling cinema. *Blackhat*, director Michael Mann's new thriller, is hampered by a lack of drama. Chris Hemsworth plays a genius hacker sprung from prison to help the FBI and Chinese government track

down a cyber terrorist, but endless scenes of Hemsworth furiously typing on a laptop aren't the stuff thrillers are made of. Mann tries to spice things up with frenetic shots of a camera racing along wires and onto the information highway, but we've seen that in every hacker movie ever made so it comes across as a hack move in a movie without much to offer. He does stage the occasional heart-pounding action scene, but at 133 minutes the movie feels in need of a reboot.

and traditional theatrical receipts. The Guardian also says Sony could be facing "damage north of \$1 billion by some estimates" as a result of the hack.

So, if this was all a massive publicity stunt, as asserted by certain outspoken twitterati, it was a marketing failure of Titanic proportions and it could even hurt the box office of other films.

This weekend *Blackhat* stars Chris Hemsworth as the world's best-looking computer hacker, now serving a 15-year sentence for internet crime.

Authorities give him a get-out-of-jail-free card because he's the only computer whiz on earth geekified enough to stop a cyber terrorist from causing havoc.

You might think a hacking movie would be perfectly timed to take advantage of the hoopla surrounding the Sony situation and yet Universal made no attempt to connect the dots between real-life events and their movie.

Why? The New York Times, quoting unnamed sources, opined that "ticket buyers could be tired of hacking stories after weeks of media attention on Sony, and a film that is too topical might strike potential viewers as less entertaining."

Perhaps Universal's decision not to cash in on the publicity generated by real life events reveals there is no room for current events in a marketplace where two of the top 10 grossing movies of 2014 were based on toy lines (the rest were inspired by novels and comic books) or maybe that sound we hear is the swoosh of an old cliché swirling down the bowl.

2
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Well, that takes the Cake! Aniston among Oscar nomination snubs

Academy Awards. Selma receives token nominations, while Ralph Fiennes and Jake Gyllenhaal join Aniston in getting cold shoulder

MATT PRIGGE

Metro in New York City

The big takeaway from the Oscar nominations isn't what was nominated but what wasn't.

Selma seemed like a no-brainer Academy Awards shoe-in: the first Hollywood film about Martin Luther King Jr. (played by David Oyelowo), directed not by a white man but by a black woman (Ava DuVernay), released into the world amidst race-related marches and protests not too dissimilar from the ones recreated in

the film. To paraphrase (with censoring) William Hurt in *A History of Violence*, how do you screw that up?

And yet Selma wound up with a mere two nominations, one for best song (by John Legend and Common, that won a Golden Globe Sunday) and a token one for best picture. "Token best picture nomination" is a strange-sounding term, but that's how it goes when there are now eight best picture nominees. Would Selma have even gotten that in the age of five nominees?

Also snubbed were DuVernay, whose win would have been the kind of story Oscar voters (and journos, and readers) love, and Oyelowo (ditto). But hey, AMAPS feted 12 Years a Slave last year, so maybe they think they can take a year off from caring about race?

Also ignored was Ralph Fiennes' alert, hilarious turn in Wes Anderson's *The Grand Budapest Hotel*, which nonetheless received nine nomina-



Michael Keaton and Edward Norton in *Birdman*.

tions — the most of any single film. (In second came *Birdman*, with eight.) Jake Gyllenhaal was MIA for his electric turn as a sociopathic freelance journalist in *Nightcrawler*. And after a baldly transpar-

ent Oscar campaign for her tiny film *Cake*, Jennifer Aniston — who gained weight for the film — was not among the best actress nominees.

Upsets also happened in the best animated feature category — where one of the year's biggest and most inventive hits, *The Lego Movie*, was nowhere to be found — and best documentary feature. In the latter, the major upset was the omission of the Roger Ebert documentary *Life Itself*, to say nothing of films like Frederick Wiseman's *National Gallery*.

In brighter news, Marion Cotillard received a surprise nomination for the Belgian drama *Two Days, One Night* — a surprise only because it's a small film that definitely deserves any and all accolades. And despite being largely ignored by the Golden Globes, Clint Eastwood's non-jingoistic *American Sniper* walked off with six nominations, including picture and actor, for Bradley Cooper.

Perhaps the best news, after *The Grand Budapest Hotel*'s many noms, is *Boyhood* and its six nominations, including picture, director (for Richard Linklater), and supporting actress (Patricia Arquette) and actor (Ethan Hawke). Filmed piecemeal over 12 years, *Boyhood* won the Golden Globe for best picture (drama) and seems to be the frontrunner for the biggest trophy.

Also continuing their awards season dominance were *Birdman*, *The Imitation Game* and *The Theory of Everything*, which cleaned up in the acting categories.

The ceremony airs on Sunday, Feb. 22.

The Oscars. And the top nominations go to...

Canadian nominees

Three Canadians are celebrating Oscar nominations for their work on animated films.

- How To Train Your Dragon 2 director Dean DeBlois, fresh off a Golden Globe win for best animated feature, is now up for an Academy Award in the same category. DeBlois is from Aylmer, Que.
- Graham Annable of Sault Ste Marie, Ont., is also nominated for a best animated feature Oscar as a co-director for *The Boxtrolls*.
- And Norway-born, Montreal-raised Torill Kove is up for a prize in the best animated short film category for *Me and My Moulton*.

Best Picture

- *American Sniper*
- *Birdman*
- *Boyhood*
- *The Grand Budapest Hotel*
- *The Imitation Game*
- *Selma*
- *The Theory of Everything*
- *Whiplash*

Best Director

- Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, *Birdman*
- Richard Linklater, *Boyhood*
- Bennett Miller, *Foxcatcher*
- Wes Anderson, *The Grand Budapest Hotel*
- Morten Tyldem, *The Imitation Game*

Best Actor

- Steve Carell, *Foxcatcher*
- Bradley Cooper, *American Sniper*
- Benedict Cumberbatch, *The Imitation Game*
- Michael Keaton, *Birdman*
- Eddie Redmayne, *The Theory of Everything*

Best Actress

- Marion Cotillard, *Two Days, One Night*
- Felicity Jones, *The Theory of Everything*
- Julianne Moore, *Still Alice*
- Rosamund Pike, *Gone Girl*
- Reese Witherspoon, *Wild*

Best Supporting Actor

- Robert Duvall, *The Judge*
- Ethan Hawke, *Boyhood*
- Edward Norton, *Birdman*
- Mark Ruffalo, *Foxcatcher*
- J.K. Simmons, *Whiplash*

Best Supporting Actress

- Patricia Arquette,

Best Animated Feature

- *Big Hero 6*
- *The Boxtrolls*
- *How to Train Your Dragon 2*
- *Song of the Sea*
- *The Tale of the Princess Kaguya*

Best Song

- *The Lego Movie*
- *Selma*
- *Beyond the Lights*
- Glen Campbell: I'll Be Me
- *Begin Again*

Best Cinematography

- *Birdman*
- *The Grand Budapest Hotel*
- *Ida*
- *Mr. Turner*
- *Unbroken*

MATT PRIGGE/METRO



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Nicole Kidman plays Millicent in the new movie *Paddington*. CONTRIBUTED

Kidman is relishing her rare comedic role

Paddington. Leather-clad, stiletto-wearing femme fatale character was written with the Aussie star in mind, director admits

Nicole Kidman knows most people don't consider her a comedic actress.

In her 31-year career, her roles have ranged from the morose to the deliciously sadistic. There are a few comedies, but she doesn't get many offers for that type of work.

She has won an Oscar and worked with Stanley Kubrick, Jane Campion, and Lars Von Trier. So how did she end up in a modest role as a delightfully villainous taxidermist in the children's film *Paddington*, with a relatively unknown director at the helm?

The answer is simple: She was asked.

"The desire to run the gamut and be diverse is something you're taught at drama school," said Kidman. "We're trained in Shakespeare and then we're trained in Noel Coward and we're trained in mime classes. But a lot of times you're not given the opportunity to explore the things you've cultivated."

For director Paul King, it was a no-brainer. But it wasn't Kidman's 1996 romantic fantasy romp *Practical Magic* that he was thinking of. He'd seen

Gus Van Sant's *To Die For* and knew Kidman had to be his Millicent. In the film, Millicent is a leather-clad, stiletto-wearing femme fatale who will stop at nothing to stuff the iconic talking bear from Darkest Peru and put him in a museum.

"He wrote it for me. I'm not sure if that's a flattering thing or not," Kidman laughed.

King, who had mostly worked in British television, knew it was a long shot.

"You should never write for an actor because they'll just say no. But I did have her in mind," he said.

The hard part was convincing everyone to actually put the script in front of Kidman. As King describes it, it was a process of being politely insistent. Despite all the warnings that Kidman was "never" going to say yes, as soon as she heard the name *Paddington*, she jumped. Kidman had grown up reading Michael Bond's books in Australia and it just struck a nerve.

Ultimately, she was the easiest person to cast. She signed on in just 12 hours.

"You don't often see the silly side of Nicole and she's such a funny, easygoing person," said King, who really put the actress to the test. On Day 1, she was hanging upside down on wires and it got more challenging from there.

"I hope it gets a good response. It's smart," said Kidman of the movie, excitedly talking about how the physical comedy of the CG bear makes

Fallon bit a hit

During a recent appearance on *The Tonight Show* with Jimmy Fallon, Kidman charmingly revealed that the host had missed an opportunity to date her years ago. The YouTube video has more than 19 million views. Kidman insists the bit was "so not planned."

her two young daughters "squeal with laughter."

The past year was not exactly stellar for Kidman, with mid-dling releases like the thriller *Before I Go To Sleep* and the historical drama *The Railway Man*, and the mysterious non-release of *Grace of Monaco* in the United States.

"It's sad," said Kidman of the *Grace Kelly* drama. "I put so much work into it. I would have loved for it to have been embraced."

But Kidman insists that she's "not the actor who makes strategic choices. If you look at my career, it's pretty random."

She is taking the reins where she can. She and Reese Witherspoon optioned the rights to the book *Big Little Lies*, which is in development as a limited series. She's also starring in and producing the adaptation of the quirky novel *The Family Fang*.

"My life is a roller coaster. My career is a roller coaster. Some people get smooth sailing. I never get that," she said.

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Miller's career takes a turn for the serious

Movie roles. The U.K. actress used to be best known as tabloid fodder, but now she's landing some heavy-hitting parts

MATT PRIGGE

Metro in New York City

When she was younger, Sienna Miller was a paparazzi magnet. Photographers chased the English actress down streets, and the media obsessed over her relationships and dwelled on her beauty, not her acting.

Now, she seems to have taken drastic steps to shed all that. In 2012 she gave birth to her daughter, Marlowe, with her now-fiancé Tom Sturridge, and regularly describes their life as "boring."

But she's also back in high-profile movies, after years in smaller fare. She played Nancy Schultz, wife of Mark Ruffalo's doomed character, in Foxcatcher, and now plays Taya Kyle, wife of late Army sharp-

shooter Chris Kyle (played by Bradley Cooper) in Clint Eastwood's American Sniper. And there's plenty more where that came from.

In real life, Taya is very animated. She's definitely not just The Wife.

She's a real firecracker. She's definitely not just a military wife. Clint, I think, is so respectful of women and historically has made movies with great roles for women in them. He'd never have let her be one-dimensional. But it's not her story; it's Chris' story. I'd love to do a movie about Taya. She deserves it. You try to pack a lot into these small, infrequent moments that served the story. I do think her sense of humour, her feistiness shines through.

Taya was very involved with the making of this film and has done press. Was she there as you were filming?

She wasn't on set at all; she'd talk through all the takes. I say this because I love her. She's such an oracle for everyone leading up to it, then was



Sienna Miller as Taya Kyle in American Sniper. CONTRIBUTED

happy to just let us make the film. On Foxcatcher, Nancy Schultz was on-set. That was intimidating, because you feel very self-conscious having the

person you're playing watching what you're doing.

How lightly do you tread when talking to someone

who suffered this kind of tragedy?

You want to explore every aspect of their relationship while trying to be sensitive

New opportunities

- "I made a pact after I had a baby that I wanted to work with the best people. I don't care about the size of the roles; I just want to be in great films, just to learn from these people. Ten weeks after I gave birth to my daughter I was sent Foxcatcher. And once that happened, it opened up opportunities with other filmmakers, because they would tell other directors what I was like to work with. It was quite a good strategy, actually."

of the fact that they're still mourning. With Nancy, it happened a long time ago. She's sort of made peace with it, as awful as it was. Taya is still raw. The man who shot Chris is going on trial in February. She's been in this relentless cycle that's punishing and unforgiving.

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Cooper did an excellent job of playing husband, widow says

Real-life story. Taya Kyle was reluctant at first to see her spouse's tale on screen, but the actor won her over

The wife of a famed Navy SEAL sniper said she struggled with the idea of someone playing the movie role of her husband, who was killed two years ago near Fort Worth, Texas.

But Taya Kyle told The Dallas Morning News that actor Bradley Cooper did an excellent job accurately portraying her husband, Chris, and the difficult decisions he faced while fighting in Iraq and his struggles with determining his role when he returned from war.

In the film, a subtle facial tic that Cooper has as he looks through the scope of his weapon made Kyle nearly forget she was watching an actor on screen, she said. "It'd be almost like a tell in poker," she said. "In a stressful situation, Chris would do that."

The movie, American Sniper, is based on Chris Kyle's



Taya Kyle, the wife of a Navy SEAL whose story was portrayed in American Sniper. GETTY IMAGES

2012 memoir that recounts his journey from being a rodeo cowboy to a trained sniper credited with 160 kills. He was honourably discharged in 2009 after 10 years of service, including four tours in Iraq.

In February 2013, Kyle and his friend Chad Littlefield were killed at a shooting range. Ex-Marine Eddie Ray Routh is charged with capital murder, and authorities say he confessed to the killings to a Texas Ranger. He remains in jail in lieu of \$3 million US bail. His

trial is scheduled to start next month.

Cooper and the film's director, Clint Eastwood, visited Taya Kyle in Midlothian — about 25 miles south of Dallas — before filming. The trio sat around and talked, with Kyle showing them her husband's baseball caps, cowboy boots and the clothes still hanging in his closet. "It felt like I had a couple of friends over," she said. "They were very respectful, kind and warm."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thor whips into shape to play a cyber hacker

Blackhat. Avengers star Chris Hemsworth had to slim down and improve his computer skills for his role in cyber-security thriller

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

When you hire the guy who plays Thor in The Avengers to be the lead hacker in your cyber-security drama, you accept that he's going to be one of those rare hackers in really, really good shape.

But Michael Mann wanted it to at least be plausible that Chris Hemsworth's super-human physique could belong to an expert coder.

So we meet Hathaway — Hemsworth's character in Blackhat — behind bars, doing time for computer crimes, and a lot of push-ups.

"Once I'm done with Thor, I get rid of that bulk and size because that just sort of screams that character," Hemsworth explains. "Me and Michael talked about the time he'd spent in prison. You go in one person and come out another and, through those experiences he was going to physically be able to handle himself."

Being able to pull that off meant more than the usual post-Thor slim-down.

"I wanted to do more with my training than just running on the treadmill and trying to get rid of the weight," he says. "I've boxed a lot in the past and done a lot of Muay Thai."

Of course, hitting the gym wasn't the only training Hemsworth had to undergo. He also had to pass muster behind a

keyboard, something that was much more foreign to him.

So time spent with cyber-security experts hired for the film — some of them former black hat hackers (the 'dark side' hackers) — proved invaluable.

"I was pretty limited in my digital, cyber involvement. It fascinated me," he says. "It became evident pretty quick that the majority of us knew nothing compared to what these guys knew."

"I remember asking one of the guys, 'Knowing what you know, do you look at the world differently? Do you feel you have an upper hand?'"

"He just started laughing. He said, 'Man, people have no idea how exposed they are and vulnerable and what's possible.'"

"And that's it, that's the power now: the brains. Not just in the criminal world but anywhere, they're the guys that are the superheroes, you know? That sort of highly intelligent, alien-type advancement that these guys seem to have within themselves was something that, every day, impressed me."

Also impressive was Mann's insistence on shooting on location, in places as authentic to the story as possible — which took them to Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta and Hong Kong.

"You could shoot on the backlot in L.A. somewhere, in some parking lot and mock it up on a green screen, which I've had plenty of over the years. But you have a visceral, physical response to being in those places," he explains.

"The sights and sounds and smells just bring something out of you, and you're not having to fake or imagine that it's there. It becomes as much of an actor — something you bounce off — as the other people you're working with."

"That was such a treat, to

work in those places, which are loud and noisy. A lot of the time, I remember the sound guy was worried about it, 'We can't shoot this, it's too much noise.' And Michael was just, 'No, no, keep going, this is great.'"



Chris Hemsworth plays a computer hacker in Blackhat. CONTRIBUTED

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Remake

Affleck and Fincher to remake classic

Ben Affleck and David Fincher are reteaming for a remake of Alfred Hitchcock's Strangers on a Train.

On the heels of their hit Gone Girl, the star and director will reunite for a film based on the 1951 classic in which two



Ben Affleck

strangers meet on a train and conspire to carry out murders for one another.

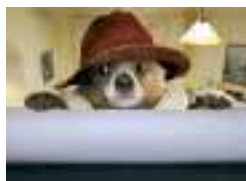
Gone Girl scribe Gillian Flynn is expected to write the screenplay, based on a Patricia Highsmith novel.

Fincher's thriller is to move the initial meeting to a plane. Affleck will play the Farley Granger tennis star of the original, only he'll now be a Hollywood star in the midst of an Oscar campaign.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Now in theatres

Comedy



Paddington

Director. Paul King

Stars. Nicole Kidman,
Hugh Bonneville

From the beloved novels by Michael Bond and producer David Heyman (Harry Potter), Paddington tells the story of the comic misadventures of a young Peruvian bear (voiced by Firth) who travels to the city in search of a home. Finding himself lost and alone, he begins to realize that city life is not all he had imagined — until he meets the kindly Brown family.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
🍅 96% 🍎 87%

Comedy



The Wedding Ringer

Director. Jeremy Garelick

Stars. Josh Gad, Kevin Hart

Doug Harris (Josh Gad) is a lovable but socially awkward groom-to-be with a problem: He has no best man. With less than two weeks to go until he marries the girl of his dreams (Kaley Cuoco-Sweeting), Doug is referred to Jimmy Callahan (Kevin Hart), owner and CEO of Best Man, Inc., a company that provides flattering best men for socially challenged guys in need. What ensues is a hilarious wedding charade.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
No reviews yet +93%

Drama



American Sniper

Director. Clint Eastwood

Stars. Bradley Cooper,
Sienna Miller

From director Clint Eastwood comes American Sniper, starring Bradley Cooper as Chris Kyle, the most lethal sniper in U.S. military history. U.S. Navy SEAL sniper Kyle is sent to Iraq with only one mission: to protect his brothers-in-arms. His pinpoint accuracy saves countless lives on the battlefield. However, his reputation is also growing behind enemy lines, putting a price on his head.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
🍀 74% + 99%

Mystery/Drama



Inherent Vice

Director. Paul Thomas Anderson

Stars. Joaquin Phoenix

Inherent Vice is the seventh feature from Paul Thomas Anderson and the first-ever film adaption of a Thomas Pynchon novel. Private eye Doc Sportello's ex-old lady suddenly shows up with a story about her current billionaire boyfriend, and a plot by his wife and her boyfriend to kidnap that billionaire and throw him in a looney bin...well, easy for her to say.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
🍅 73% + 94%

Action/Adventure



Taken 3

Director. Olivier Megaton

Stars. Liam Neeson,
Maggie Grace

Liam Neeson returns as ex-covert operative Bryan Mills, whose reconciliation with his ex-wife is tragically cut short when she is brutally murdered. Consumed with rage, and framed for the crime, he goes on the run to evade the relentless pursuit of the CIA, FBI and the police. For one last time, Mills must use his "particular set of skills," to track down the real killers.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
🍀 31% + 96%

Drama



Foxcatcher

Director. Bennett Miller

Stars. Steve Carrell,
Channing Tatum,
Mark Ruffalo

Foxcatcher is a psychological drama that tells the story of Olympic Gold Medal-winning wrestler Mark Schultz (Tatum), who sees a way out from the shadow of his more celebrated wrestling brother Dave (Ruffalo) and a life of poverty when he is summoned by eccentric multi-millionaire John du Pont (Carrell) to move onto his estate and train for the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
🍅 85% 🍆 78%

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Avatar sequels. James Cameron delays the first of three followup films

Director James Cameron said Wednesday that writing three Avatar sequels is such a complex job he will delay the first film by a year, so it will now be released in late 2017.

Cameron plans to film all of the highly anticipated sequels at one time and then release the three films over consecutive years.

The first had been due in late 2016, but he said the writing process proved to be "very involved" and that the initial target date was probably too ambitious.

"There's a layer of complexity in getting the story to work as a saga across three films that you don't get when you're making a stand-alone film," he said in Wellington, New Zealand, where he was helping promote the local film industry with other directors, including Peter Jackson.

Cameron said the goal is to have the three scripts completed this month. He's leading the writing team.

"We're writing three simultaneously. And we've done that so that everything tracks throughout the three films. We're not just going to do one and then make up another one and another one after that," he said. "And parallel with that, we're doing all the design.

So we've designed all the creatures and the environments."

Cameron said it's important that each film links forward to the next one in a satisfying way, but also comes to a resolution so that the audience isn't left hanging.

Released in 2009, Avatar is the highest-grossing film in history, with a box-office take of nearly \$2.8 billion. It was named best drama at the Golden Globes and won Academy Awards for cinematography, visual effects and art direction.

Cameron shot the original movie in New Zealand and is planning to shoot the sequels there.

The films will be made by Lightstorm Entertainment and Twentieth Century Fox.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



James Cameron
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

The original Avatar set a box-office record in 2009.



Chris Pratt ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Theatre award. Chris Pratt chosen as the Hasty Pudding Man of the Year

Guardians of the Galaxy star Chris Pratt has been named Man of the Year by Harvard University's Hasty Pudding Theatricals.

Pratt also co-stars on Parks & Recreation with Amy Poehler, who was named as Hasty Pudding Woman of the Year last week. "We vehemently deny that the mem-

bers of the Hasty Pudding Theatricals are obsessed with Parks & Recreation," says Jason Hellerstein, president of the student group. Wednesday's announcement says Pratt became "a bona fide Hollywood heavyweight" in the past year.

Pratt will receive his pudding pot Feb. 6 following

a parade through Harvard Square and a roast. Poehler will be honoured Jan. 29.

Last year's winners were Helen Mirren and Neil Patrick Harris. Hasty Pudding Theatricals is America's oldest undergraduate drama troupe, dating to the late 18th century.

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Blackhat (14A) No Passes Fri 4:05-7:35-10:35 No Passes Sat 1:05-4:05-7:35-10:35 No Passes Sun 12:40-3:40-6:45-9:45 No Passes Mon 4:35-7:40 No Passes Tue 4:05-7:35-10:35 No Passes Wed-Thu 4:35-7:40
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D (PG) Fri 3:45-6:55-10:05 Sat-Sun 12:35-3:45-6:55-10:05 Mon 4:20-7:35 Tue 3:45-6:55-10:05 Wed-Thu 4:20-7:35
The Imitation Game (PG) Fri 5-7:40-10:25 Sat-Sun 1-5-7:40-10:25 Mon 4:40-7:25 Tue 5-7:40-10:25 Wed-Thu 4:40-7:25 Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 3:45-6:30-9:30 Mon 7 Tue 6:30-9:30 Wed-Thu 7
Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (G) Sat 12:40 Sun 12:30
Paddington (G) Fri 4:30-6:50-10:45 Sat 1:15-4:30-6:50-10:45 Sun 1:15-4:30-6:50 Mon 4:50-7:55 Tue 4:30-6:50-10:45 Wed-Thu 4:50-7:55
Taken 3 (PG) Fri-Sun 7:15-9:55 Mon 7:30 Tue 7:15-9:55 Wed-Thu 7:30 Fri 3:50 Sat 12:45-3:50 Sun 12:45-3:25 Mon 4:55 Tue 3:50 Wed-Thu 4:55 Fri 7:50-10:30 Sat-Sun 4:30-7:50-10:30 Mon 8:20 Tue 7:50-10:30 Wed-Thu 8:20
Unbroken (PG) Fri-Sun 3:55-7:05-10:10 Mon 4:45-7:50 Tue 3:55-7:05-10:10 Wed-Thu 4:45-7:50
The Wedding Ringer (14A) Fri 4:20-7:30-10:20 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:20-7:30-10:20 Mon 5-7:45 Tue 4:20-7:30-10:20 Wed-Thu 5-7:45

Cinema City Northgate 1399 McPhillips Street

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day (G) Fri 6:55 Sat-Sun 1:55-6:55 Mon-Thu 5:35
The Book of Life (G) Sat-Sun 2:05 Mon-Thu 5:30
Feng Shui 2 (PG) Fri 4:35-7:20-9:25 Sat 1:45-4:35-7:20-9:25 Sun 1:45-4:35-7:10-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:20
Guardians of the Galaxy 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 4:20-9:35 Sun 4:20-9:30 Mon-Thu 8
Horrible Bosses 2 (14A) Fri 4:15-7-9:40 Sat 1:25-3:50-7-9:40 Sun 1:25-3:50-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:10
I (14A) Fri 3:45 Sat-Sun 1:05-4:05 Mon-Thu 7:30 Fri-Sun 7:50
John Wick (14A) Fri 4:25-9:50 Sat 4:35-9:50 Sun 4:35-9:40 Mon-Thu 8:30
PK (14A) Fri 3:55-7:40 Sat-Sun 4:25-7:40 Mon-Thu 7:50
St. Vincent (14A) Fri 7:10 Sat 1:10-7:10 Sun 1:10-7 Mon-Thu 5:25



Selma. ATSUSHI NISHIJIMA/PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Tevar (PG) Fri 3:35-6:40-9 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:35-6:40-9 Mon-Thu 5:20-7:40
Whiplash (14A) Fri 4:05-6:50-9:55 Sat 1:35-4-6:50-9:55 Sun 1:35-4-6:45-9:10 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:25

Cinematheque 304-100 Arthur

Contempt (STC) Thu 9
FM Youth (STC) Fri-Sat 9 Wed 7
A Hard Day's Night (STC) Sun 2
L'Enfer (STC) Thu 7
Love Is Strange (STC) Fri 7 Sat 3-7 No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon-Tue

City Cinema - Northgate 1399 McPhillips

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day (G) Fri 6:55 Sat-Sun 1:55-6:55 Mon-Thu 5:35
The Book of Life (G) Sat-Sun 2:05 Mon-Thu 5:30
Feng Shui 2 (PG) Fri 4:35-7:20-9:25 Sat 1:45-4:35-7:20-9:25 Sun 1:45-4:35-7:10-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:20
Guardians of the Galaxy 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 4:20-9:35 Sun 4:20-9:30 Mon-Thu 8
Horrible Bosses 2 (14A) Fri 4:15-7-9:40 Sat 1:25-3:50-7-9:40 Sun 1:25-3:50-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:10
I (14A) Fri 3:45 Sat-Sun 1:05-4:05 Mon-Thu 7:30 Fri-Sun 7:50
John Wick (14A) Fri 4:25-9:50 Sat 4:35-9:50 Sun 4:35-9:40 Mon-Thu 8:30
PK (14A) Fri 3:55-7:40 Sat-Sun 4:25-7:40 Mon-Thu 7:50
St. Vincent (14A) Fri 7:10 Sat 1:10-7:10 Sun 1:10-7 Mon-Thu 5:25

Sun 1:10-7 Mon-Thu 5:25
Tevar (PG) Fri 3:35-6:40-9 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:35-6:40-9 Mon-Thu 5:20-7:40
Whiplash (14A) Fri 4:05-6:50-9:55 Sat 1:35-4-6:50-9:55 Sun 1:35-4-6:45-9:10 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:25

Famous Players Kildonan Place, 1555 Regent Ave W.

American Sniper (14A) Fri 3:50-7-10:15 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:50-7-10:15 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:40
Blackhat (14A) No Passes Fri 3:40-6:50-10 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:30-3:40-6:50-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:40-8:45
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D (PG) Fri 3:30-6:40-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:15-3:30-6:40-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:30
Paddington (G) Fri 4-7:20-9:45 Sat-Sun 1:30-4-7:20-9:45 Mon-Thu 6-8:30
Taken 3 (PG) Fri 3:45-7:10-9:50 Sat-Sun 1-3:45-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:20
The Wedding Ringer (14A) Fri 4:10-7:30-10:10 Sat-Sun 1:15-4:10-7:30-10:10 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:20

Grant Park 8 Cinemas 1120 Grant Ave.

American Sniper (14A) Fri 4:10-7:15-10:10 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:10-7:15-10:10 Mon-Tue 4:10-7:15-10:10 Wed 7:15 Thu 4:10-7:15-10:10 Wed 4:10-10:10
Foxcatcher (PG) Fri 3:30-6:50-9:45 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:30-6:50-9:45 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:50-9:45
The Imitation Game (PG) Fri 3:50-7-

9:40 Sat-Sun 1-3:50-7-9:40 Mon-Thu 3:50-7-9:40
In Search of Beethoven (STC) Sun 11
Inherent Vice (STC) Fri 3:40-6:45-9:55 Sat 3:40-9:55 Sun 12:30-3:40-6:45-9:55 Mon-Thu 3:40-6:45-9:55 Sat 12:30-6:45
Into the Woods (G) Fri 3:20-6:40-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:25-3:20-6:40-9:30 Mon-Tue 3:20-6:40-9:30 Wed 3:20-9:30 Thu 3:20-6:40-9:30
Selma (PG) Fri 3:45-6:30-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:45-6:30-9:50 Mon 6:30-9:50 Tue-Thu 3:45-6:30-9:50 Mon 3:45
Taken 3 (PG) Fri 4-7:05-10 Sat 1:05-4-7:05-10 Sun-Thu 4-7:05-10
Wild (14A) Fri 4:05-7:10-10:05 Sat-Sun 12:35-4:05-7:10-10:05 Mon-Thu 4:05-7:10-10:05

Landmark Towne Cinema 8. 301 Notre Dame Avenue

American Sniper (14A) Fri 6:45-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:25-3:25-6:45-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:40
Annie (G) Sat-Sun 1:20-3:50
Blackhat (14A) Fri 6:55-9:45 Sat-Sun 12:35-3:35-6:55-9:45 Mon-Thu 6:55-9:45
The Boy Next Door (18A) Thu 8
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (PG) Sat-Sun 3:20
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D (PG) Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:15-6:30-9:30 Mon-Wed 6:30-9:30
Mortdecai (STC) Thu 7:05-9:40
Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (G) Fri 6:40-9 Sat-Sun 1-3:30-6:40-9 Mon-Wed 6:40-9

Paddington (G) Fri 7:05-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:10-4-7:05-9:15 Mon-Thu 7:05-9:15
Taken 3 (PG) Fri 6:50-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:10-6:50-9:35 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:35
The Wedding Ringer (14A) Fri 7-9:25 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:15-7-9:25 Mon-Thu 7-9:25
The Woman in Black: Angel of Death (14A) Fri-Thu 7:15-9:20

SilverCity Polo Park 815 St. James Street

American Sniper (14A) Fri-Sat 1:10-4:20-7:30-10:40 Sun 1-4:05-7:10-10:15 Mon-Tue 1:45-4:05-7:10-10:15 Wed 4:05-7:10-10:15 Thu 1:45-4:05-7:10-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1:30
Annie (G) Fri-Sat 1:15-7:10 Sun-Wed 1:30-7:10 Thu 1:30
Big Hero 6 (G) Fri 2:40 Sat 12:30-3 Sun 3 Mon 2:50 Tue-Wed 3 Thu 1:40
Blackhat (14A) No Passes Fri-Sat 1-4:10-7:20-10:30 No Passes Sun 1:05-4:10-7:20-10:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:20-7:20-10:20
The Boy Next Door (18A) No Passes Thu 10
City Lights (STC) Mon 7
Exhibition OnScreen: Girl With a Pearl Earring (STC) Sun 12:55
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (PG) Fri 1:35-3:30 Sat 12:05-3:25 Sun 3:35 Mon-Thu 3:25
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies -- An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri 1-4:10-7:30-10:40 Sat 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:40 Sun 12:55-4:10-7:25-10:30 Mon-Thu 4-7:25-10:30
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 6:45-10:05
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG) Fri 1:45-3:35-6:50-9:50 Sat 3:35-6:50-9:50 Sun-Wed 3:45-6:50-9:50 Thu 3:55
The Imitation Game (PG) Fri 1:25-4:20-7:15-10:25 Sat 12:50-4:20-7:15-10:25 Sun 1:30-4:20-7:15-10:25 Tue 1:30-4:20-7:15-10:25 Wed 4:20-7:15-10:25 Thu 1:30-4:20-7:20-10:15
Into the Woods (G) Fri 1:55-3:55-7-10 Sat 12:40-3:55-7-10 Sun 1:05-4:05-7-10 Mon-Thu 1:30-3:55-7-10
The Metropolitan Opera: The Merry Widow (STC) Sat 11:55
Mortdecai (STC) Thu 7-10:15
National Theatre Live: Treasure Island (STC) Thu 7
Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (G) Fri 1:20-5:15-7:50-10:20 Sat 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:50-10:20 Sun 2:45-5:15-7:50-10:20 Mon 2:50-5:15-10:20 Tue-Thu 2:45-5:15-7:50-10:20
Paddington (G) Fri 1:05-4:50-7:15-9:40 Sat 10:55-12-2:25-4:50-7:15-9:40 Sun-Thu 2:25-4:50-7:15-9:40

Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Sat 11
Selma (PG) Fri-Sat 1-4:05-7:05-10:10 Sun 1:10-4:05-7:05-10:10 Mon-Thu 3:15-7:05-10:10
Taken 3 (PG) Fri 2:40-5:20-8-10:40 Sat 12-2:40-5:20-8-10:40 Sun-Thu 2:20-5-7:45-10:25
Unbroken (PG) Fri-Sat 4-10:05 Sun-Wed 4:10-10:05 Thu 4:10
The Wedding Ringer (14A) Fri 1-5:10-7:40-10:10 Sat 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10 Sun 1-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10 Mon-Tue 1:30-5:10-7:40-10:10 Wed 5:10-7:40-10:10 Thu 1:30-5:10-7:40-10:10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1:30
The Woman in Black 2: Angel of Death (14A) Fri-Sat 5:30-8-10:35 Sun-Wed 5:30-7:55-10:30 Thu 4:20

SilverCity St. Vital 110-1225 St Mary's Rd.

American Sniper (14A) Fri 1-4:05-7:15-10:25 Sat-Sun 12:55-4:05-7:15-10:25 Mon-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15
The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D (PG) Fri 3:35-6:55-10:15 Sat 12:25-3:35-6:55-10:15 Sun 3:35-6:55-10:15 Mon-Thu 3:40-6:55-10:05
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG) Fri-Wed 4-7-9:55 Thu 4-9:55
The Imitation Game (PG) Fri-Sun 1:45-4:25-7:25-10:20 Mon-Thu 1:45-4:25-7:25-10:15
Into the Woods (G) Fri 1:25-4:30-7:30-10:25 Sat 4:30-7:30-10:25 Sun 1:25-4:30-7:30-10:25 Mon-Wed 1:25-4:30-7:30-10:20 Thu 4:30-7:30-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1:30
The Metropolitan Opera: The Merry Widow (STC) Sat 11:55
Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (G) Fri-Sat 2:05-4:35-7:05-9:40 Sun 12:45-4:35-7:05-9:40 Mon-Thu 1:15-4:35-7:05-9:40
Paddington (G) Fri 1:10-2:25-4:50-7:20-9:45 Sat 11:05-12-2:25-4:50-7:20-9:45 Sun 1-2:25-4:50-7:20-9:45 Mon-Thu 1:20-2:25-4:50-7:20-9:45
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Sat 11
Penguins of Madagascar (G) Fri 1:30 Sat 11:10-1:30 Sun-Thu 1:30
Taken 3 (PG) Fri 2:20-5:05-7:45-10:25 Sat 11:40-2:20-5:05-7:45-10:25 Sun 2:20-5:05-7:45-10:25 Mon-Thu 2:20-5:05-7:45-10:20
Unbroken (PG) Fri 1:20-3:30-6:50-10 Sat 12:15-3:30-6:50-10 Sun 1:15-3:30-6:50-10 Mon-Wed 1:25-3:40-6:50-10 Thu 1:25-3:35-6:50-10
The Wedding Ringer (14A) Fri 1:05-5:10-7:40-10:10 Sat 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10 Sun 2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10 Mon-Wed 2:30-5-7:40-10:10 Thu 5-7:40-10:10 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1:30

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rrc.ca/openhouse

Ricardo is a Canadian chef, television host and author on a mission: To unite people through the pleasure of food. Discover his delicious and simple recipes every Friday — just in time for the weekend

Wine gives beef tender loving touch



This recipe serves six. COURTESY RICARDOCUISINE.COM

Dinner. Red Wine Braised Beef is a great meal when you have a bit more time to spare



RICARDO COOKS
Chef Ricardo
Ricardo Magazine

When your cheeks are rosy from a day of being outside, nothing hits the spot like a comfort food classic. Plan ahead and let a blade roast slow-cook while you warm up in front of the fireplace.

1. With the rack in the middle position, preheat the oven to 350 F (180 C).

2. In a large ovenproof skillet, brown the meat in half the oil. Season with salt and pepper on both sides. Set the meat on a plate. In the same skillet, soften the shallots with the spices in the remaining oil (2 tbsp/30 ml). Sprinkle with the flour and mix well. Deglaze with the wine. Bring to a boil, whisking constantly.

3. Return the meat to the skillet. Add half the beef broth and the ketchup. Bring to a boil. Cover and roast in the oven for 3 hours. Turn the meat over three or four times during cooking and baste with the remaining beef broth.

4. Add the carrots and pancetta around the roast. Continue cooking, always covered, for about 1 hour or until the meat is fork tender and the vegetables are cooked.

5. To give a nice crust to braised meat, move the rack to the highest position of the oven. Set the oven to broil. Drain the meat and place on a baking sheet. Keep the sauce and toppings warm. Brush top of the roast with honey. Broil for about 3 minutes or until the surface starts to brown.

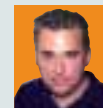
6. Serve meat with toppings and drizzle with sauce. Serve with barley. FOLLOW RICARDO ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND ON RICARDOCUISINE.COM OR SUBSCRIBE TO HIS MAGAZINE'S ENGLISH EDITION, WHICH LAUNCHED IN 2014.

Ingredients

- 1 boneless beef blade roast, about 3 lb (1.5 kg) and about 3 inches (7.5 cm) thick
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- 3 shallots, chopped
- 2 tsp crushed juniper berries
- 1/2 tsp cracked black pepper
- 1/4 tsp ground nutmeg
- 2 tbsp all-purpose flour
- 2 cups (500 ml) red wine
- 2 cups (500 ml) beef broth, warm
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) ketchup
- 4 large carrots, diced
- 1/4 lb (115 g) pancetta, diced
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) honey

Liquid Assets

Enjoy a glass as you cook



LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

I've written it before, and I'll write it again: I'd never cook with a wine I wouldn't drink.

Not that I'd plunk down a week's pay on some vino to simply pour into a pan.

Wine is a secondary flavour component in any main course and not the focal point.

As a basic rule you should always pick a wine that matches your budget and key ingredient.

Today's recipe from Chef Ricardo is a great example of how well liquids and solids can work together in a dish. His braised beef is a hearty entrée that deserves a red wine that's in line with the mouth-filling texture of the meat.

Think a red Bordeaux from France, a spicy Australian Shiraz, a peppery Argentinean Malbec or a rich, full-bodied Chilean Cabernet like the 2013 Errazuriz Estate Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon (\$12.99 - \$14.99).

One last tip: Never keep a half-drunk bottle of red in your pantry to "cook with." Once it's opened it will only stay consumable for a few days. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**



3 TIPS

Fresh take on onion soup

Need something quick but deliciously filling to warm you up? Try French Onion Soup — with a twist. The addition of tomatoes offers a new way to

enjoy this classic.

1. In a large saucepan, gently sauté the onions in the butter until they caramelize, about

15 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Deglaze with the wine. Add the broth and tomatoes. Bring to a boil and simmer for about 10 minutes. Season with salt and pepper.

2. With the rack in the middle position, preheat the oven's broiler.

3. Ladle the soup in oven-safe bowls or baking dishes. Top with the bread slices and sprinkle with the cheese. Brown under the broiler.

RICARDO



This recipe makes six servings. COURTESY RICARDOCUISINE.COM

Ingredients

- 8 cups (2 litres) thinly sliced sweet onions (Vidalia, red)
- 3 tbsp (42 g) butter
- Salt and pepper
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) port wine
- 4 cups (1 litre) beef or chicken broth
- 1 can 14 oz (398 ml) cherry or diced tomatoes
- 6 slices baguette cut diagonally, lightly toasted
- 1 1/2 cups (150 g) grated Gruyère cheese



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- Open workspaces
- Campus tours

Stevenson Campus

- Campus tours
- Meet with instructors and support staff

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Patriots coach expands his winning playbook

NFL playoffs.

Belichick's trickery in divisional round gives Colts just another thing to prepare for

When Bill Belichick pulled something new from his bag of tricks last week, some wondered if the three-time Super Bowl champion coach had found another way to bend the rules.

The New England Patriots were creative and intentionally deceptive, but using four offensive linemen isn't illegal.

The tactic worked, and it angered the Ravens and coach John Harbaugh. There's no telling what wrinkles Belichick and the Patriots (13-4) are planning for Sunday's AFC championship game against Indianapolis (13-5).

"It's a situation that I saw another team use, kind of," Belichick said, explaining the unique formation. "Then we talked about it and thought about ways maybe to put some pressure on the defence with that concept of having more receivers on the field than were actually eligible. To make them ineligible instead of making an ineligible guy eligible, to go the other way around. We came up with a few ideas."

Got that?

OK, here's a simple summary of what the Patriots did for three plays against Baltimore:

AFC title game



Colts (13-5) at Patriots (13-4). Sunday, 5:40 p.m.

- When the two teams met earlier this season in November, the Pats won 42-20.

- Right guard Josh Kline came off the field.
- Backup tight end Michael Hoomanawanui entered and lined up where the left tackle traditionally plays but declared himself eligible.
- Left tackle Nate Solder moved inside to left guard.
- Running back Shane Vereen entered and lined up in the slot, but was technically the right tackle and therefore ineligible.

That created confusion because the defence covered Vereen, thinking he was going to run a pattern. Hoomanawanui was allowed to run freely down the seam and caught two passes for 16 yards and 14 yards as Harbaugh drew an unsportsmanlike penalty for going on the field to argue that his defence should have had more time to identify eligible receivers before the snap.

After the penalty, Tom Brady tossed a touchdown pass to Rob Gronkowski to cut the Ravens' lead to 28-21.

"Nobody's ever seen that before," Harbaugh said. "It's



Patriots head coach Bill Belichick utilized deceptive offensive formations to confuse the Ravens last weekend. The Pats came from behind to win the game 35-31. GETTY IMAGES FILE

not something anybody's ever done before."

Belichick doesn't expect anything to prevent the Patriots from using their new formation against the Colts.

"I'd venture to say I couldn't remember the last time that I haven't seen an eligible receiver report as an ineligible player

in the NFL," Belichick said. "I would say it happens in every game on the punt team. You're allowed to do that. We did it."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wagner, Matthews leaders with differing styles



Seahawks linebacker Bobby Wagner, right, covers the Cardinals' Larry Fitzgerald on Dec. 21 in Glendale, Ariz. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If it seems as if Clay Matthews is omnipresent off the field, well, yeah. No NFL linebacker has a higher profile than the Green Bay star, thanks to his commercials and his flashy persona.

If you barely know anything about Bobby Wagner, that's understandable, too. He's not into snazzy, leaving that to his Legion of Boom teammates in Seattle.

On Sunday in the NFC championship game, their performances will go a long way toward determining which team goes to the Super Bowl. And while Matthews may add a touch of the ostentatious,

NFC title game



Packers (13-4) at Seahawks (13-4). Sunday, 2:05 p.m.

- The Seahawks won the season-opening game between the two teams, 36-16.

Wagner will do things far more quietly, yet just as fiercely.

Indeed, he might be the least-ballyhooed member of this season's All-Pro team.

But, consistent with his nature, Wagner doesn't make a big deal of it all.

"My job is to be in the middle of everything," said the 2012 second-round draft pick from Utah State. "Also, the signal caller, making sure everybody's in the right spot, making adjustments when I need to, being as vocal as I possibly can on the field."

The Packers will show up at CenturyLink Field with a good but not great defence. Indeed, its only consistent playmaker is Matthews, who made his fifth Pro Bowl in six seasons by being a factor at outside and inside linebacker.

Matthews has displayed throughout his six pro seasons he is much more than a media star capable of ripping on himself in TV ads. He had 6-1/2 sacks in his final four games and 11 for the season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"We're winning games and I'm making plays, so as long as that's happening, we're doing something right."

Packers linebacker Clay Matthews

4 SPORTS

Bruins' shutout knocks out Rangers

NHL. Boston continues regular-season domination of New York

Tuukka Rask stopped 30 shots for his second shutout, Patrice Bergeron scored a first-period goal, and the Boston Bruins won their fifth straight by beating the New York Rangers 3-0 on Thursday night.

The Rangers have lost 3-0 in consecutive games after winning five straight and 13 of 14.

David Krejci and Loui Eriksson also scored for Boston, which has earned points in nine consecutive games (6-0-3). Torey Krug added two assists. It was Rask's 25th NHL shutout.

Cam Talbot made 29 saves for the Rangers, with top goalie Henrik Lundqvist getting the night off. New York began a stretch of three road



Chris Kelly of the Bruins fights Chris Kreider of the New York Rangers on Thursday night in Boston. GETTY IMAGES

games in four days. Talbot also played the third period of Tuesday night's home loss to the New York Islanders.

The Bruins have earned at least a point in their last eight games against New York (6-0-2).

With Boston leading 1-0,

Krejci redirected defenceman Krug's pass behind Talbot 2:49 into the second period. Krug wound up for a slap shot, but instead sent a perfect pass to Krejci at the top edge of the crease.

Eriksson made it 3-0 with 10:11 left in the third.

The Bruins took a 1-0 lead on Bergeron's goal four minutes into the first. Defenceman Dougie Hamilton fired a shot from the left point, and Talbot mishandled the rebound before Bergeron slipped the puck between his pads.

The Bruins owned a 13-7 edge in shots after one period, but the Rangers had much better chances.

Rask made a pair of stellar stops about two minutes apart after Bergeron's goal. The first came when former Boston College star Chris Kreider broke in alone down the left wing, cut in front, but was robbed by Rask's left pad.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jets shoot to win in Texas

Stars forward Erik Cole and Winnipeg Jets defenceman Dustin Byfuglien crowd goalie Ondrej Pavelec during the first period of Thursday night's game in Dallas. Michael Frolik scored in the first and Evander Kane added a short-handed goal in the second and the Jets held on for a 2-1 in the Lone Star State.

Go to metronews.ca for more coverage.

RONALD MARTINEZ/
GETTY IMAGES



Speed it up

MLB toys with pitch clock idea

A pitch clock will be used this season during minor-league games at Triple-A and Double-A, but it has been ruled out for the major leagues this year.

MLB officials said details will be announced later, such as how much time will be allowed between pitches.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Jays strike deal with lefty Cecil

The Toronto Blue Jays have avoided arbitration with Brett Cecil, signing the left-handed relief pitcher Thursday to a \$2.475-million US, one-year contract.

Cecil was 2-3 last season with five saves and a 2.70 earned-run average in 66 appearances.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA

Harden's Rockets sock it to Thunder

James Harden scored 15 of his 31 points in the Houston Rockets' big first quarter in a 112-101 victory over the Oklahoma City Thunder on Thursday night.

The Rockets led 40-18 after one and didn't trail again to bounce back after a loss to Orlando on Wednesday night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries

March 21 - April 20

Good fortune is heading your way. You may find that hard to believe but if you adopt a more positive outlook today and over the weekend it will help you to recognize how lucky you are.

♉ Taurus

April 21 - May 21

No matter what sad tales you hear from people today you will be on a high. As far as you are concerned the world is, was and always will be wonderful.

♊ Gemini

May 22 - June 21

If you force yourself to be enthusiastic about a task you don't care for today you may be surprised to find that you actually quite enjoy it.

♋ Cancer

June 22 - July 23

A few days from now you will look back and wonder why and how you allowed yourself to get so worked up about a relationship matter. Life always moves on and so should you.

♌ Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

If someone tries to belittle your efforts over the next 24 hours it can only be because they are jealous of your ability to get things done and the way (almost) everyone loves you.

♍ Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

There is something you have wanted to do for many years but for one reason or another never got around to. Now the universe is making it easy for you to get started on it.

♎ Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

You will be less inclined to worry about your cashflow today and that's good. The only danger is you could start spending money like it grows on trees. It doesn't.

♏ Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Your luck will turn for the better very soon but today you must be cautious, especially when travelling and dealing with people whose motives you know little about.

♐ Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

The next few days will be lucky for you and what you gain you will deserve. Not everyone will agree with it but not everyone is aware how hard you worked to get to your current position.

♑ Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

If you gamble on something and win today you would be wise not to go any further. The planets warn that once you are ahead the only way you will stay ahead is by calling it a day.

♒ Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

Don't feel bad about it if you gain from someone else's loss over the next 24 hours. According to the planets it is your turn to get lucky, so take advantage of the situation.

♓ Pisces

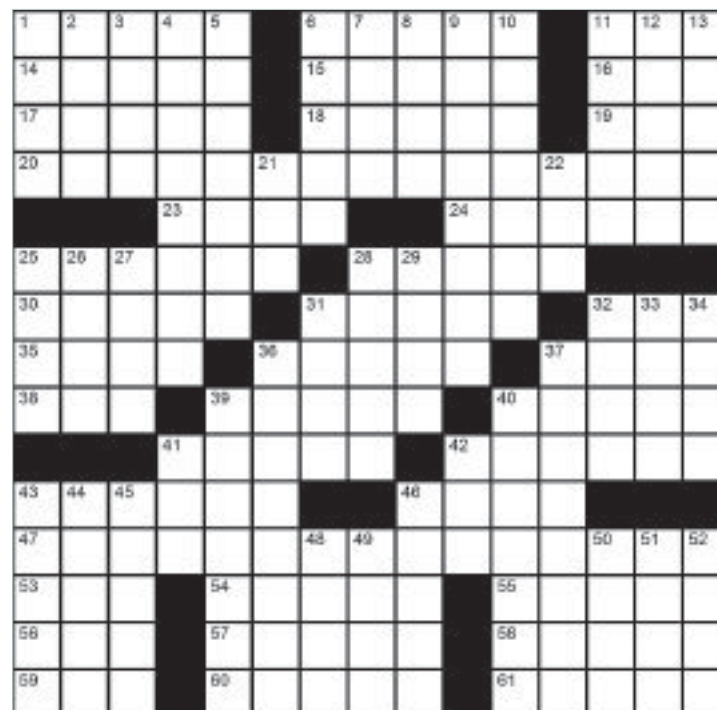
Feb. 20 - March 20

If someone tries to do you a favour don't automatically assume that it's some kind of scam. Genuine people do exist.

Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan

Across

1. Three-player card game
6. Sports buff's interests
11. US lawyers' org.
14. Heat-resistant glassware
15. Java hue
16. "Follow You Down" by ___ Blossoms
17. Spew fire
18. Mr. Flynn
19. Contribute
20. Sniffle, achoo...
21. Cold treatment alternatives: 2 wds.
23. Twisted
24. Immediately!
25. Misgivings
28. Blue Rodeo's "___ Hit Me Yet"
30. Loosen
31. Stevie Wonder's "Shoo-___-Be-Doo-Da-Day"
32. iPhone download
35. Medical suffix
36. Convict
37. "Ripley's Believe ___ Not!": 2 wds.
38. The Anteater's mealtime noise in the B.C. comic strip
39. Songstress Ms. Scott's
40. Rusty hue
41. ___ letter (Used Canada Post)
42. Family emblems
43. Becky Black and Maya Miller = Vancouver rock duo



The ___.

46. Scottish rolls
47. Canadian artist (b.1905 - d.1989) ...his paintings depict the landscapes of Alberta and Saskatchewan: 2 wds.
53. "Don't Bring Me Down" gr.
54. Herman's Hermits singer Peter

55. "___ Was a Lady" (1945)

56. Has the ability
57. The Jackson 5's "___ There"
58. Serviceable
59. Middle
60. Guitarist Duane, and surnamesakes
61. Dished, ___ out

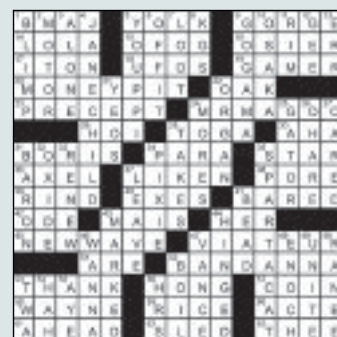
Down

1. Unlock
2. "___ Breckinridge" (1970)
3. Men's cologne brand
4. CBC's "___ of Doyle"
5. Drastic
6. Extract metal from ore
7. Pressure unit
8. Land unit

9. 4th Prime Minister of Canada, from 1892 to 1894: Sir John ___ (b.1845 - d.1894)
10. Hamilton-based cheese company since 1962
11. Anew
12. Posh bathroom feature
13. Hence...: 2 wds.
21. Years: French

22. Actress, ___-Marie Jones
25. Test
26. Do ___ others...
27. Fighting: 2 wds.
28. No Doubt's "___ Good"
29. Big fuses
31. Fashion accessory
32. Sporty sorts, shortly
33. Harbour site
34. CEO
36. Have a successful day as a prospector during the Klondike: 2 wds.
37. Emulate Kurt Browning: 2 wds.
39. "I Dream of ___"
40. The ___ (Historic concert hall in Vancouver)
41. Do moguls
42. Meower
43. Portion
44. Relieve
45. Baa Baa! Duplicate, like Dolly
46. Namesakes of Marcia's "Desperate Housewives" role
48. Hilly countryside area
49. Dionne Warwick's "Walk ___"
50. Modify
51. Annoy
52. Singer/songwriter Lou

Yesterday's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers



Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



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